Glass83
THORN IN THE SIDE (PART 3)

MR DRIVER TO SHINJUKU
AMERICA EXPRESS
LET'S GO TO MY SENIOR'S BAR, IS THAT ALRIGHT?
SURE I'LL LET YOU DECIDE
... SORRY TO CALL AT THIS HOUR

I'M LOOKING FOR DOCTOR KIMIJIMA IN PEDIATRICS, I REMEMBER THAT SHE'S WORKING THE NIGHT SHIFT TODAY
MAY I ASK WHO'S SPEAKING ...

FRIEND ...
Shock ...

MY NAME IS HAYASE
I'M DOCTOR KIMIJIMA'S FRIEND
カ"
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!?
I WON'T TRANSFER YOUR CALL!
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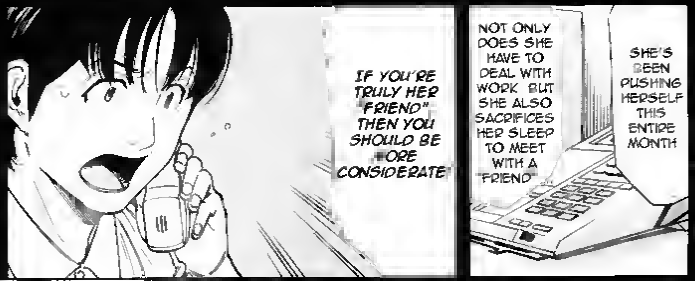
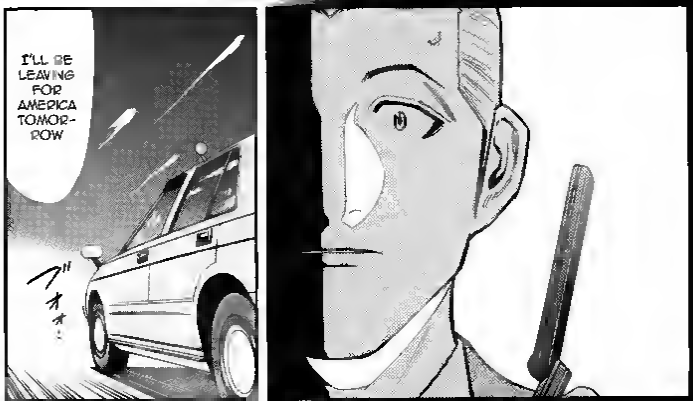
DOCTOR KIMIJIMA... SHE FAINTED A WHILE AGO. IT'S MOST LIKELY DUE TO STRESS AND LACK OF SLEEP
SHE'S CURRENTLY RESTING AND SHE'LL HAVE A THOROUGH EXAMINATION TOMORROW


SHE'S BEEN PUSHING HERSELF THIS ENTIRE MONTH
NOT ONLY DOES SHE HAVE TO DEAL WITH WORK BUT SHE ALSO SACRIFICES HER SLEEP TO MEET WITH A "FRIEND"
IF YOU'RE TRULY HER "FRIEND" THEN YOU SHOULD BE MORE CONSIDERATE


I'LL BE LEAVING FOR AMERICA TOMOR-ROW
ブオオ!

I THINK THAT ONLY MAKES ME ... WANT TO DRINK EVEN MORE
EVEN SO, YOU STILL WANT TO DRINK ... WILL YOU BE OKAY?
EH ...
THIS PLACE IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM A REGULAR BAR
RIGHT HERE

WHY AM I HESITATING?
SHUAAK...
DOESN'T MATTER. ANY BAD WOULD DO
HAVE A SEAT

HE'S MY SENIOR KITAKATA-SAN
THIS IS HAYASE-SAN. A FREQUENT AT MY BAR
HELLO
PLEASE GIVE ME WHISKY ON THE ROCKS
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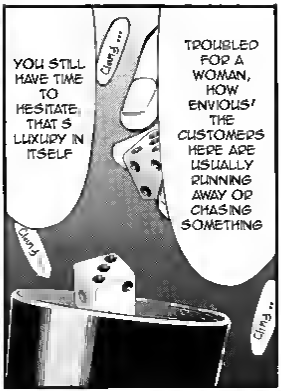
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A PERSON WHO'S RUNNING FROM DEBT
BOTHERING YOU?
AND YET SOMETHING'S BOTHERING ME
LIKE I SAID EARLIER, THIS IS A CRITICAL MOMENT IN MY CAREER
ふぅ
Clang

FROM YOUR EXPRESSION, I'M GUESSING IT'S FOR A WOMAN?
UH... WHAT'S SPECIAL ABOUT THIS BAR IS THAT THE BARTENDER IS BLUNT AND WON'T HOLD BACK...
LIKE A FIELD HOSPITAL...
WOMAN... THAT'S RIGHT

Clang ...
Stare ...


TROUBLED FOR A WOMAN, HOW ENVIOUS! THE CUSTOMERS HERE ARE USUALLY RUNNING AWAY OR CHASING SOMETHING
Clang ...
YOU STILL HAVE TIME TO HESITATE. THAT'S LUXURY IN ITSELF
Clang ...
Clang ...

SINCE YOU'RE HESITATING, WHY NOT LET THIS DECIDE FOR YOU?
Clang ...

IT'S SAID THAT DICE ROLLING USED TO BE A TECHNIQUE THAT BARTENDERS MUST MASTER

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THEN IMAGINE HOW THE DICE WILL MOVE INSIDE THE CUP
SHAKE THE WRIST, WHILE CONTROLLING YOUR STRENGTH, AND PRACTICE SHAKING THE DICE CUP
IT'S THE SAME PRINCIPAL AS IMAGINING HOW ICE TURNS INSIDE A SHAKER
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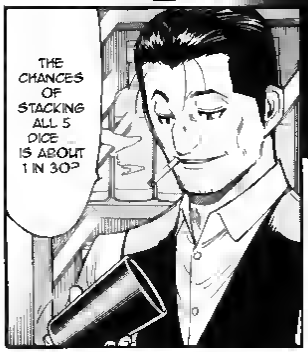

THE CHANCES OF STACKING ALL 5 DICE IS ABOUT 1 IN 30?

.....

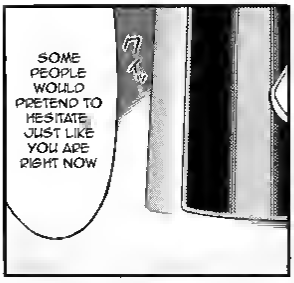
1 OUT OF 30... I WOULD SAY THIS IS MORE ABOUT LUCK THAN SKILL

BUT IN LIFE, IT'S ALWAYS MORE FUN TO GO WITH POOR ODDS, DO YOU KNOW WHY?
THAT'S TRUE. EVEN THOUGH THE WORSE THE ODDS ARE, THE EASIER IT IS TO DIG YOUR OWN GRAVE...

THIS IS CALLED DICE STACKING

RATHER THAN BETTING ON GOOD ODDS AND REGRET WHY NOT BET ON POOR ODDS. EVEN IF YOU LOSE, YOU WOULD'VE SEEN IT COMING
POOR ODDS
I SEE. THEN LET'S TRY IT AGAIN
GLAD-LY!
IF THE 5 DICE DON'T STACK UP, THEN I'LL BREAK UP WITH HER AND FOCUS EVERYTHING ON MY JOB
THAT'S THE OBVIOUS CHOICE
BUT IF THE DICE STACKED
IF A MIRACLE DOES HAPPEN

EVEN IF THAT MEANS I WON'T GET THE PROMOTION
THEN I WON'T GO TO AMERICA TOMORROW, INSTEAD I'LL GO SEE HER
STACK UP!


SOME PEOPLE WOULD PRETEND TO HESITATE JUST LIKE YOU ARE RIGHT NOW

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PRETEND TO HESITATE?

BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO FACE THE TRUTH. SO YOU RELY ON GOD
THE KEY IS TO HAVE A LITTLE BIT OF COURAGE

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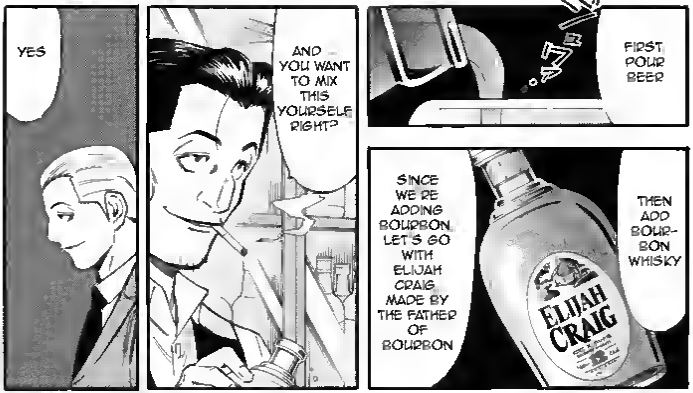
NOT STRONG ENOUGH… TO FACE THE TRUTH

RIGHT NOW... THERE'S STILL AN OPPORTUNITY TO START OVER
PERHAPS, I'M AFRAID OF THE THORN ON MY SIDE AND MY PAST, AND THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T FACE HER
NOW—— LET'S SEE WHAT GOD HAS CHOSEN?
?
THERE'S A COCKTAIL THAT I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TRY
PLEASE WAIT BEFORE YOU PICK UP THE DICE CUP

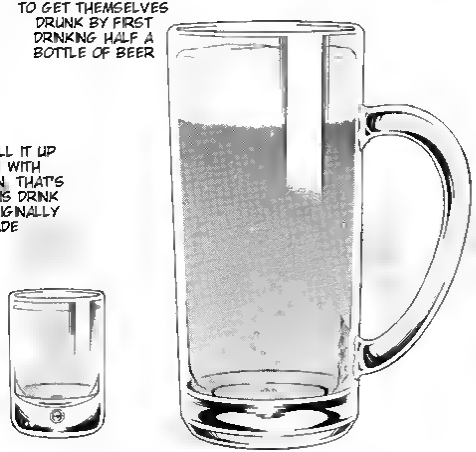
I SAW IT IN A MOVIE... BUT I CAN'T DRINK IT AT SASAKURA'S BAR
CAN'T DRINK IT AT MY BAR...?
COULD YOU MAKE THAT FOR ME? I UNDERSTAND NOW...
THERE ARE SOME THINGS MORE IMPORTANT THAN GOD'S WILL
WELL, THIS IS A FIELD HOSPITAL
WE CAN FULFILL MOST REQUESTS
I WANT TO DRINK BOILER-MAKER...
AND I WANT IT IN SEPARATE GLASSES


YES
AND... YOU WANT TO MIX THIS YOURSELF, RIGHT?
FIRST, POUR BEER
SINCE WE'RE ADDING BOURBON, LET'S GO WITH ELIJAH CRAIG, MADE BY THE FATHER OF BOURBON
THEN ADD BOURBON WHISKY
ELIJAH CRAIG

BOILERMAKER

AMERICAN BOILERMAKERS USED TO GET THEMSELVES DRUNK BY FIRST DRINKING HALF A BOTTLE OF BEER

THEN FILL IT UP AGAIN WITH BOURBON. THAT'S HOW THIS DRINK WAS ORIGINALLY MADE



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THE KEY IS TO HAVE A LITTLE BIT OF COURAGE RIGHT?

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I THINK THIS IS HOW TO DRINK A BOILER-MAKER?
!?
HUH
AN EXCELLENT BARTENDER LIKE YOU WILL EXPLAIN IT THAT WAY, BUT THAT'S NOT RIGHT
WHISKY'S ALCOHOL CONTENT IS HIGHER, SO IT'LL FLOAT AND PUSH THE BEER'S FOAM TO THE TOP

THAT'S WHY IT'S CALLED BOILERMAKER
AFTER YOU DRINK THIS COCKTAIL, YOUR BODY WILL HEAT UP LIKE A BOILER AND WITH IT, A BIT OF COURAGE
WHEW— IT DOES FEEL LIKE A BOILER
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I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TRY THIS
Drink
Hah
Ahhh...

I'M GOING IN EVEN IF I HAVE TO CLIMB OVER A WALL BECAUSE I HAVE TO SEE HER
HE HE ...
HOSPITALS USUALLY HAVE VISITING HOURS ...
VISIT THIS LATE!?
I'M GOING TO VISIT SOMEONE AT A REAL HOSPITAL NOW
THIS FIELD HOSPITAL IS GREAT KEEP THE CHANGE GET A DRINK WITH SASAKURA WITH THAT!
AND THAT'S WHY BARS EXIST
YEP WHEN THERE'S A THORN, YOU HAVE TO PULL IT OUT
THANK YOU IT SEEMS THE THORN IN MY SIDE HAS BEEN PULLED
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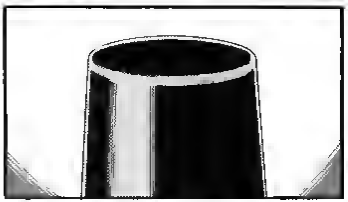
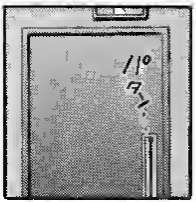
NO NEED ... I UNDER-STAND MY OWN FEELINGS NOW
YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE THE RESULTS?
IF ONLY ... I KNEW THIS SOONER I WOULD'VE LIVED A HAPPIER LIFE

ACTUALLY I SHOULD SAY I'VE UNDERSTOOD IT ALL ALONG

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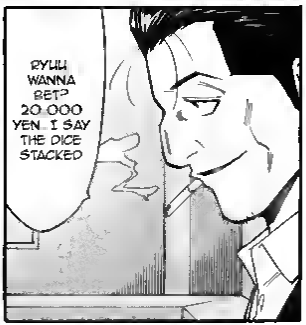
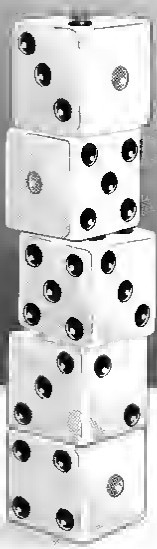
KITAKATA-SAN YOU CAN DO IT 100% OF THE TIME!
NO WAY! WHAT 1 IN 30 ODDS SUCH A BIG LIAR!


RYUU WANNA BET? 20,000 YEN. I SAY THE DICE STACKED

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ISN'T GOD'S VOICE, IT'S THE LITTLE BIT OF COURAGE NEEDED TO FACE ONE'S TRUE FEELINGS. AND GIVING CUSTOMERS THIS COURAGE

IS ALSO PART OF THE BARTENDER'S JOB——



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